

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6838

BILL NUMBER: HB 1175

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 5, 2013

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Search Fee for Public Records Requests.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Friend

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill allows a state or local government public agency to charge a fee for any records search in excess of two hours. It provides that the search fee must be an hourly fee that does not exceed the lesser of: (1) the hourly rate of the person making the search; or (2) \$20 per hour. The bill also requires the fee to be prorated to reflect any search time of less than an hour.

Effective Date: July 1, 2013.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues: This bill allows fees to be charged by state and local agencies for public records searches that take longer than two hours. There are no data relating to public records searches or search times. The amount of fees that may be collected under the bill is indeterminable. The impact will depend upon whether agencies assess these fees, and the extent to which employees are engaging in public records searches that qualify for the assessment of fees.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues: See *Explanation of State Revenues*.

State Agencies Affected: All.

Local Agencies Affected: All.

Information Sources:

Fiscal Analyst: Jessica Harmon, 317-232-9854.